

# EUROPARC Federation

## **Memorandum of Understanding with the United States National Parks Service North East Region**

### EUROPARC Members' Questionnaire

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+ Yes, we are interested in an exchange programme with a protected area in the United States (North East Region).

☐ No, we are not interested in an exchange programme with a protected area in the United States (North East Region).

*Please state reason:*

### **1. If yes, on which topics would you be interested in pursuing cooperation?**

- |                              |                                    |
|------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| + organisational development | +ecotourism                        |
| +sustainability              | <input type="checkbox"/> marketing |
| +transboundary management    | +education                         |
| +financing                   | +other (please state)              |
|                              | - landscape preservation           |
|                              | - biodiversity conservation        |

### **2. If yes, what type of exchange would you be interested in ?**

- + at staff level (professional development)
- + at political level (Presidents, Board Members)
- + other stakeholders (e.g. farmers, tourism businesses)

**3. If yes, please give a short description of the features of your park and main areas of current work:**

The Farm “Rural Park-Europarc of San Floriano” is not a proper farm but it is however an example of rural activity carried out in an environmentally protected area, which includes the spring and part of the flow of the Livenza River. This rural farm is located on the hills of San Floriano and of the Mori in the territory of Polcenigo. It covers an area of about 65 ha, 35 ha owned by the Bazzi Foundation and about 30 ha owned by the Provincial Administration. Part of these 20 ha has been brought back to the past marsh-meadow destination, i.e. a grassland area producing animal feed and bearing witness to the medieval wet areas of the eastern Po valley. The farm-park carries out didactic and demonstrative activities, addressed to farm technicians, farmers and, in particular, students at all levels. Its crops are managed with high sustainable techniques being the alternative to intensive agricultural activities.

Crops of medicinal plants, small fruits, walnut-trees, cherry-trees, apple-trees, pear-trees, plum-trees, olive-trees, together with horse, sheep, cattle, pig and bee keeping, make this farm an example of an environment friendly farm, reproducible in many areas of both our region and other Italian alpine foothills.

Among the most interesting and significant activities, it is worth mentioning the collection of old varieties of apple-tree, pear-tree, plum-tree and olive-tree, gathered in our region. At present, about 160 old varieties of the four above-mentioned species have already been planted.

A gene bank could therefore been established which on the one hand helps to collect new varieties and on the other disseminates rustic varieties to hobbists. For the Province of Pordenone, this gene bank is a heritage of inestimable value to be safeguarded.

Even concerning animal species, old breeds of poultry, sheep (Carsolina), cattle (Friuli Red Pied<sup>1</sup>) and pigs (Cinta Senese<sup>2</sup>) have been introduced in the park.

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<sup>1</sup> Italian three purpose cattle, especially considered as a dairy cattle, widespread in the Eastern regions of Italy.

<sup>2</sup> Italian breed of pigs widespread in the central regions of Italy. The colour is black and white shoulders and fore-legs.

Signed:

Date: 3rd April 2003

Please return by 20 March 2003 to:

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